

## **FISCAL NOTE**

### **HB 1096 - SB 1524**

March 27, 2007

**SUMMARY OF BILL:** Increases the penalty from a Class A misdemeanor to a Class E felony for the offense of unauthorized practice of law, punishable by fine only. Creates a civil cause of action with treble damages.

#### **ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:**

**Increase State Expenditures – Not Significant**

**Increase State Revenues – Not Significant**

**Decrease Local Govt. Expenditures – Not Significant**

**Decrease Local Govt. Revenues – Not Significant**

Assumptions:

- The establishment of a civil cause of action regarding the unauthorized practice of law with a two-year statute of limitations may increase the caseloads of state trial and appellate courts. This increase is estimated to be not significant.
- Any increase in state revenues from increasing the penalty is estimated to be not significant.
- There will not be a sufficient decrease in the number of misdemeanor prosecutions for local governments to experience any significant decrease in revenues or expenses.
- No increase in incarceration costs.

#### **CERTIFICATION:**

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

**HB 1096 - SB 1524**

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "James W. White". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "J" and "W".

James W. White, Executive Director